

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00

AGR-05 FMC-01 IO-10 PM-03 H-01 L-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /088 W

----- 101836

R 090450Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8326

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 0250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDO-PAK RELATIONS: NEXT SERIES OF TALKS

REF: NEW DELHI 287

1. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL (SOUTH ASIA) ABDUL SATTAR TOLD POL COUNSELOR JANUARY 8 THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR SHIPPING AGREEMENT WOULD BEGIN IN NEW DELHI JANUARY 10 AND THOSE FOR FORMALIZATION OF TRADE AGREEMENT IN ISLAMABAD JANUARY 20. ADDITIONALLY, THERE ARE PLANS FOR A PAK COTTON DELEGATION TO VISIT BOMBAY.

2. SATTAR INDICATED PAKS CONSIDER SHIPPING AGREEMENT IMPORTANT, MORE SO THAN AGREEMENT ON CIVIL AIR OVERFLIGHTS AND AIR LINKS. (APPARENTLY AGREEMENT IS NECESSARY BEFORE EVEN THIRD COUNTRY VESSELS NOW CALLING AT KARACHI AND INDIAN POSTS CAN ACCEPT AND DISCHARGE CARGO COMING FROM OR DESTINED FOR OTHER, AND IS THUS HIGHLY IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN RESTORING TRADE.  
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PAKS, AND PRESUMABLY INDIANS, WOULD PREFER OF COURSE THAT CARGO

BE CARRIED IN THEIR OWN FLAG VESSELS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.)

3. GOP DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY K. T. KIDWAI, SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (WHICH INCLUDES PORTS AND SHIPPING), AND WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL SHIPPING CORPORATION AND OTHER SPECIALISTS. A FMA REPRESENTATIVE, DIRECTOR (INDIA) ZAFAR HILALY, WILL ACCOMPANY THE DELEGATION.

4. SATTAR SAID THAT HE EXPECTED NO DIFFICULTY IN THE TWO SIDES CONCURRING ON THE TERMS OF A "GOOD WILL TYPE" TRADE AGREEMENT AT THE SESSIONS HERE BEGINNING JANUARY 20. HE RECALLED THAT THE INDIANS HAD ASKED FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT AT THE TRADE TALKS HELD IN NEW DELHI IN NOVEMBER. THE PAK DELEGATION HAD HAD NO OBJECTION TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT BUT WAS UNABLE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO SATTAR, ALL AGREEMENTS OF THAT TYPE REQUIRE APPROVAL BY A GOP CABINET COMMITTEE. THIS COMMITTEE HAS NOW GIVEN THE GO AHEAD TO THE COMMERCE MINISTRY. SATTAR NOTED THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD ADD NOTHING SUBSTANTIVE TO THE ARRANGEMENTS ALREADY WORKED OUT FOR THE RESTORATION OF TRADE.

5. SATTAR DENIED THAT GOP PLANNED ANY INITIATIVES TO RE-OPEN STALLED CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS AND MAINTAINED THAT SPECULATION HE HAD SEEN IN INDIAN PRESS TO THIS EFFECT WAS BASELESS. HE DESCRIBED INDIAN POSITION AS UNREASONABLE. THE GOI'S INSISTENCE THAT GOP FOREGO ITS RIGHT OF APPEAL TO ICAO ON ISSUES RAISED BY 1971 HIJACKING DISPUTE IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY INDICATIONS THAT THESE COULD BE RESOLVED BILATERALLY WAS TANTAMOUNT, IN SATTAR'S VIEW, TO FREEZING THE PRESENT SITUATION VIS-A-VIS THE 1971 ISSUE WITH NO HOPE OF SETTLEMENT. SINCE THE SITUATION WAS IN ANY EVENT FROZEN, IN THE PAK VIEW TO THEIR DISADVANTAGE, NOTHING WOULD BE GAINED BY GOP ACCEPTANCE OF THE INDIAN STAND. SATTAR CONCLUDED, AS HE HAD BEFORE, THAT RESTORATION OF OVERFLIGHTS AND AIR LINKS ARE OF NO GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN LIGHT OF THE OPERATION OF THIRD COUNTRY AIRLINES BETWEEN AND OVER INDIA AND PAKISTAN.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MARINE TRANSPORTATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ISLAMA00250  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750008-0830  
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**Line Count:** 98  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 NEW DELHI 287  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDO-PAK RELATIONS: NEXT SERIES OF TALKS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, PFOR, PK, IN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006